

WHO KNEW?

Dear friends, past and current donors and recipients of gift certificates for 'goats' or building the school:

Through the tumultuous times in Nepal, we continue to successfully support our still increasing groups of ladies who receive goats for commerce, and the micro banking we have established.

The school is well on its way to completion. Sure, we have met with a zillion challenges, but we have mastered each one as rapidly as possible without loss of anything material.

The time to get the school in place far exceeded our wishes, but who knew a coup or revolution would take place? **Who knew** the government could/would alter their agreement on the gifted land? **Who knew** that after such effort and joining with the villagers for another location to build upon, the Maoists would state they wanted our newly determined, designated land? **Who knew** the costs would jet up so high we couldn't have guessed the increases in cost? **Who knew** we would not have fuel to transport Rabin to and from the villages as the country is deplete in so many ways? **Who knew** the revolution would continue, robbing the villagers of their meager incomes? **Who knew** even in the cities fuel, sugar and salt would not be available?

See what we have been up against? Still we are moving upward and forward!

Each time we came to a 'bump' we just stopped, reevaluated our direction, shifted and made it through to the point the school is truly more than half built now! We continue to require donations for the completion of the building and supplies for teaching. We have not hit the total sum at this time, but we will, we must! The time is now.

This newsletter features a



number of photos to give you some visual understanding of what is happening with the school land; the building itself; the work the women do that we could never imagine with all the rocks they carry. As you can see by the photos, this is truly an act of love and inspiration!

Be assured we are guarding all we do well, thus protecting the gifts you have given. You will further see what we have done; we will feel the impact in our world. It is good.

In April I will be traveling to other states presenting what we are doing. I am looking for large sponsors in the corporate world, even celebrities to promote our valuable work; still looking for grant writers too as well as someone knowledgeable to direct the PR work.

Steadily we are progressing, and already we are successful, for which I thank you. Your support continues to make a difference. What a journey this has been! Thanks to you all for caring and holding the vision we can do it.

Many of you have asked me when I shall return to Nepal. My plan is to arrive in November of this year with a **fully paid ticket given in either points or sponsorship within 2 months. (Know anyone with 160,000 points or connections for a gifted ticket?)**

As you know, I currently underwrite travel expenses myself. This

allows 100% of what you give to go directly to the school or the goat projects.


However, it is not appropriate nor possible for me to carry these costs indefinitely. Many of you have thoughtfully sent funds beyond the goats or bricks to assist me. I am also seeking your help in finding corporate sponsorships to support these growing administrative and travel expenses.

Lastly my friends, all contacts for whatever resources you believe valuable to this work remain requested. I continue to 'wish' for working laptops to take with me, no more than 4.5 years old.

Thank you for your continued generous support to do this excellent service in our world in the form of working with the women in the 2nd poorest nation in the world. Nepal is actively war infected. I have no doubt "we are giving to save our own lives" as is stated in a song so well several years back.

We have electricity coming in next month, just before the school is completed. We have drilled for water, so that is in place. The teachers are ready to teach and students and moms ready to enroll. Is this not all amazing? What a difference we do make! WOW!

Call or e mail anytime for additional information on our projects. This is and has always been a grass roots endeavor, thus it is up front and quite personal for those inclined.

Thank you for all forms of support you have given and may give. My blessings to you all. 

Please remember, a donation of \$125.00 will purchase 1 goat for the women of Nepal!

More on other side!



A typical Nepali family home...this is downstairs. The jugs in the background are the ones the women carry to the watering hole and carry back to their homes. Usually they tote 3 at a time! Most impressive. This woman is Santa. She is the daughter of my goat gatherer Som and Masali is the mom. This is a home I live in while in this high altitude village. This is a Maoist held village. very communist.

Mango trees are planted on the school grounds for several reasons, for shade, for beauty and for snacks.



The women of Nepal ROCK!! Since they carry the rocks for the foundation it can be said that they are the "foundational rocks" of Nepal villages. Notwithstanding, the men of the village contribute by digging.



Rabin has the traditional matters on the small stainless steel tray. There is tikha in both yellow and red along with other items. Note the hat insignia he is wearing. I wore that hat for identification when I arrived for my first trip in 2003.



This is where the women are given their 2 goats. The good luck is on the neck of the goats...a red ribbon. Note the rural road they must walk on, ride bikes on and drive vehicles on. A rough life indeed!



This is the land with the trenches dug. The school is to be here. This is the village of Ojehtar, the first village we gave goats to in 2003-4. They have already passed their 2 goats along. The changes in this especially poor village can be seen with great improvements taking place in everyone's health, including animals and plants.

